Chair Neron, Vice-Chair Hudson, Vice-Chair Wright, and Members of the Committee:

As a high school sophomore and the Sophomore Class President, I am writing to express my wholehearted support for bill HB 2656. This bill is crucial in ensuring that each school district provides a safe and supportive environment for students to learn and succeed.

As someone who has experienced high school first-hand, I know that a student's mental and physical well-being plays a significant role in their academic success. With the implementation of this bill, students will be given a voice to express their thoughts and opinions about their school environment. This will provide valuable insights and information that can be used to improve the school's facilities and make necessary changes to create a positive learning atmosphere.

Additionally, I am excited about the directive for the Superintendent of Public Instruction to convene an advisory committee to explore options for expanding or revising the education accountability framework. This will help create a more comprehensive and effective evaluation system that takes into consideration the various aspects that contribute to a student's success.

In conclusion, I strongly believe that HB 2656 is a step in the right direction toward creating a better educational system that prioritizes student well-being and success. I hope that this bill will be passed quickly, so that we can start creating a brighter future for our students.

Sincerely,

Devon Lawson-McCourt

Sophomore Class President, McKenzie River Community School Vida, Oregon